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WASHINGTON - Developing technology and best practices to clean up eutrophic coastal waters like Barnegat Bay will be one mission of a proposed national water research initiative, under an amendment to the proposal sponsored by Rep. John Adler, D-N.J.

The House of Representatives this week approved the National Water Research and Development Initiative introduced by Rep. Bart Gordon, D-Tenn., that would cover a host of water-supply and quality research.

In remarks supporting the measure, Adler said eutrophication - the ecological changes wrought by overenrichment of coastal waters with nitrogen and phosphorus - is the most critical threat to Barnegat and the 27 other bays in the National Estuary Program.

Kirk Moore